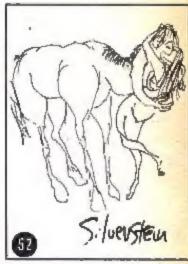


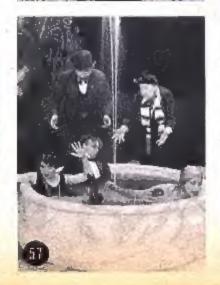


ORSON BEAN













EDITOR'S PREFACE

If Jack Paar thinks he has become a force in America...he's right, Witness Hugh Downs on our cover and George Kirgo on pages 8 and 23; two nice people we might never have met had they not been brought into our living rooms by the Tonight Show.

COVER STORY

Actually, our cover is a father-son photo. After an early evening taping of the Paar Show, Hugh Downs came over to our photographer's studio with his fifteen-year-old son, H. R. Downs. That's his name, H. R. And that's his fist on the cover, lower right.



H.R., Kurtzman, Chester, Hugh Downs, Warren

BERLIN

For our second "overseas assignment" we commissioned cartoonist Arnold Roth to inspect the Iron Curtain in East and West Berlin. Roth, who draws the syndicated comic strip, "Poor Arnold's Almanac", took a look at this phenomenon (try imagining a boundary drawn between, say,



Roth (right) by Roth

the East Side and West Side of New York), and composite with some pretty revealing observations about big historical problems translate into poignant personal problems.

ORSON BEAN

This month's fumetti (see page 45) was shot on be tion, and we have the chilblains to prove it. We some managed to choose the coldest pre-Christmas day of year for our all-day outdoor shooting session at the C County Shopping Center in Yonkers, New York.

Between shots, everybody – jumetti cast plus Ec Kurtzman, Assistant Steinem, and Photographer Han huddled together in the station wagon, clutching cup hot coffee and each other. Cold weather certainly for friendship.

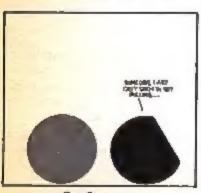


Back in New York, we managed to thaw out Orson Bean in time for his guest appearance on the Jack Paar (there's that name again) Show that evening, and Nona Candler shifted costume and gears for her role in Three Penny Opera. The rest of us slunk off in the winter-evening gloom to our respective hot showers and plans of less suburbia and more tropics in all future picture stories.

JACK WOHL

Jack Wohl is a Young Talent Around New York (which is the only thing to be around New York) who appears here (see page 32) for the first time in any magazine called HELP! (Another important HELP! first!) We saw his book called "The Conformers" (see below) and we knew immediately that his mind worked like ours, i.e., he's in trouble.

Biographically speaking, Jack has been, at various



Conformera

times, a child, a larger child, a musician, a composer and a Creative Consultant and Art Director for our larger Advertising Agencies. His ambition in life is to buy a new briefcase. That's what it says on the back of his book. If you want to know what it says inside, buy it.

—editors

LETTERS

SHIP PRINTS

How could you do a thing like this to me? Putting different ship pictures in various copies of HELP! #6. Just how many different pictures were there, out of curiosity?

Charles S. Hertz, Jr. Alientown, Pennsylvania

There were six different ship prints bound into various issues of issue #6... and beauties they were.—ed,

OFFICE PARTY

In the office party skit, who is the blonde and also who is the branette who Milt fired for not being more sociable?

Jack Cascio, Editor REALM OF FANTASY Benld, Illinois

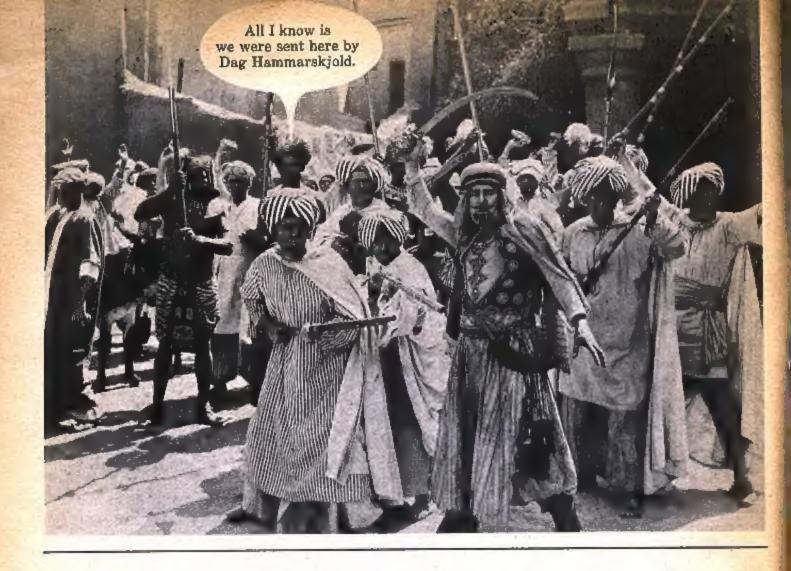
The blonde is model Marianne Nestor, and the brunette is our own wonder-woman, Assistant Editor, Gloria Steinem.-ed.

The enclosed picture shows one office party victim, namely, me.



Niel N. Prey continued

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LETTERS continued

It seems my wife has had the worst kind of picture of office parties painted for her, and when I arrived home she and a girl friend of her's were waiting for me. When I opened the door POW! BANG!

Niel N. Prey Orlando, Florida

MADAM BUTTERFLY

I didn't get the gag on page 44 either, until a friend pointed me in the right direction. I was thinking of Pinkerton, the detective, not Pinkerton of "Madam Butterfly."

Donald Thompson Cleveland 15, Ohio



Pinkerton Bit

I found the picture and caption on page 44 of your fifth edition very vulgar, repulsive and not funny in any way, shape or form.

Giacomo Puccini Italy

POETS CORNER

I would rather be an artisan who contributes to HELP! than to a review named Partisan; HELP! gets right down to the gist of things.

In short, as the sheriff said when he saw the body of the bad man

daugling from the tree limbit swings.

With the scalpel-like precision of Ernst or Dali,

It gives tired minds a point round which to rally

And punctures bloated images of pomposity,

Which, unfortunately, compose that confection of monstrosity Known as society; and with a good deal of uniformity,

HELP! helps to disarrange that thing-conformity;

And so I'd rather keep on reaping

The reward of being in HELP! in preference to appearing in

Good Housekeeping.

Bob Elliott

West Hollywood, Fla.

KISSIE My favorite feature is the



Favorite feature

'Kissie". After buying the last issue I promptly went out and broke my engagement.

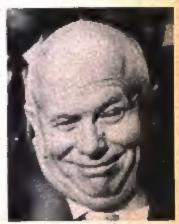
Jim Black New York City

Another kissie in the back of this issuel-ed,

So wassamater with yer "Kissies"? That fool piccher you

put on payge sixteay threey of the Januaray "Help" (no. 6) wuz a gersfluggin lousy substitute.

> Cecil Survend Hartford, Conn.



Kimie?

STILLS

The movie stills are the greatest part of the magazine.

Mason Watt
Atlanta 18, Georgia
P.S. Keep using movie stills.

Please address all mail to HELP! Letters, Department 8, 545 Fifth Ave. N. Y. 17, N. Y.



GEORGE KIRGO

THE SHOCK OF RECOGNITION



George Kirgo (and friend)

Owing to circumstances beyond my control (I'm on this TV show a lot), I now possess what is known as a public face. That is to say, chances are that if I stand on a street corner for any length of time somebody is bound to recognize me. It's true. Of course it helps if the corner is Broadway and 42nd Street. And if I stand there during the lunch hour. For at least an hour or two. And if an old friend happens to come along and see me standing there waiting for somebody to recognize me.

Such is the power of television. Oh, maybe I'm not recognized the way a John F. Kennedy is, or a Nelson Rockefeller, or an Elizabeth Taylor, or some other big show business personality. My face isn't that public. Yet the day doesn't pass but that a perfect stranger stops me on the street and says, "Hey, aren't you what's-his-name?"

Many public faces claim they hate being recognized. Some react violently to a mere request for an autograph. I won't name names but I've heard that a certain Acadamy Award-winning actor (M—— B——) will rip off your T-shirt if you as much as speak to him. A prominent actress whom I'll call J—— M—— is equally flerce. She'll rip off her own T-shirt,

Not me. I'll be frank with you, I resent not being recog-



nized. If a full day goes by and not a single perfect stranger has recognized me, I'll stop one and insist on his doing it. Even if he's never seen me before.

You see, this business of recognition is like a disease. Once you've been recognized you can't stop. You've got to keep being recognized. You can't get enough of it. You've got to be recognized or—else! It's a monkey on your back.

Take dark glasses. Now I'm the kind of human being who can't stand having things on his body. I mean, bodily encumbrances. Like wallets and wristwatches and other extra weights. Don't ask me why (amateur psychologists I'm not so fond of, either). That's the way it is. I have a watch; it's at home in a drawer. I don't wear rings or carry good luck medallions. I don't even own an ankle bracelet.

But you'll rarely see me without my dark glasses. I despise dark glasses, They hang heavy on my sensitive ears. They bruise the bridge of my nose. They hamper my vision even. Let them, I've discovered that without dark glasses you just don't get recognized.

And that's why so many public faces wear the things. Don't let them tell you anything different. Why, I know of one celebrity—a baritone, naturally—who not only wears dark glasses—he wears dark contact lenses!

All right, you know the worst. I enjoy being recognized by perfect strangers. It's a cheap thrill, but a thrill nevertheless. There are reasons for my pleasure, I'm sure – deep-rooted reasons like exhibitionism, insecurity, hostility with a little English on it. This is not the place for such probing. Besides, I dislike amateur psychologists even when they're me.

Before you condemn me, however, for deriving such joy from what is, at best, a meaningless experience, consider this:

Maybe I enjoy being recognized simply because, until recently, I've never been recognized. I mean, at all.

Like when I was about five years old, my father was taken seriously ill (the depression) and had to be hospitalized for several months. When the time came for him



to return home, my mother was apprehensive. At my age, after so long a separation, would I recognize my father?

As it turned out, I had no trouble. The gimute he was wheeled into the lobby, I spotted him. But he didn't recognize me.

It's been that way ever since. My face is extremely forgettable and consequently my life has been largely composed of shattering incidents caused by non-recognition. Every time I entered the house my sister used to scream she didn't recognize me. I think that's why she used to scream

Anyway, that's one explanation I don't ask for forgiveness or even sympathy Just understanding.

Believe me 1 don't really like to like being recognized, or being stopped by perfect strangers. It's a situation fraught with penis. Once, while strolling on 5th Avenue, I was pleased to note that virtually everyboid) was recognizing me. Pleased but rather surprised since this was one of those rare occasions when I wasn't wearing my dark glasses (they were at the dentist). I was also struck by the fact that these people (or recognizers, as they are known in the Irade) all seemed to be suffering from some strange sort of astigmatism. Although they were obviously looking at me, their eyes were focused a bit to the right of and beyond my public face. Suddenly if occurred to me that too many of them were recognizing me and too many of them had eye trouble. Heartsick, I turned and



recognized the public face of Jack Benny

If you plan to become a public face, be prepared for this eventuality. In New York public faces are common Other celebraties who have walked behind me include Harry Belafonte, Sidney Blackmer, Harry Truman (he passed me), Phil Silvers, Jackie Cooper, G. Mennen Williams, J.— M.—, Greta Garbo, and, twice, Myron Blumenthal

Another time, late for an appointment, I rushed from the house, having barely finished dressing. Normally I relish being stopped by perfect strangers and hearing their perfectly strange views on literature, television, and international affairs, but, tardy as I was, I hoped to avoid such encounters. I proceeded through the streets of the city (I always walk since that's the best way to be recognized) without incident (lots of stares but nothing more) until I was at destination's door. And there I was observed by an elderly gentleman whose broad smile indicated that he would have words with me. As he neared me, I thought. "Probably retired. Lots of time to kill Wants to know if it's true about Minnie Guggenheim and Charley. Weaver. Wants to know if his grandson who plays the trombone can get on the show. Wants to know



if it's okay to use a ball point pen to write a book "

But as the elderly gentleman implanted himself before me, I said to myself. "So you'll be late. So what! This is the price one pays when one has a public face. It's your own fault, anyway. If you'd got up when you were supposed to, you wouldn't have had to rush from the house, having barely finished dressing."

So I extended my hand to the elderly gentleman and was about to confirm his suspicion that I was what's his name. The elderly gentleman ignored my hand, however, and asked me nothing. Instead he informed me, with a discreet downward glance, that I hadn't quite finished dressing. And, having performed this kindness for a perfect stranger (me), he moved on

I'm sure all of you have had similar experiences and you can imagine how I felt. Eviscerated. Still, I had sense enough to close my eyes so I would not be seen, and, as surreptitiously as possible, I finished dressing, there in Rockefeller Center.

Today, my motto is check and double-check. I believe that when one has a public face it is incumbent upon one to insure the privacy of one's other components. In fact, shouldn't everybody?

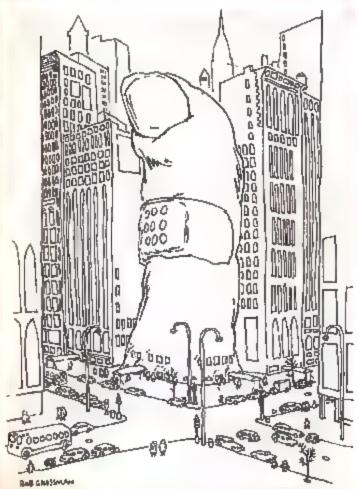
help's public gallery

We welcome cont butions to this leature. HELP will pay a munificent \$5.00 or every inide cartoon used Mail submissions to HELP! \$45.5th Avenue, New York City. Please be sure to englave a stamped togic and reted envelope to ensure return of all rejections.



Williamson

SKIP WILLIAMSON



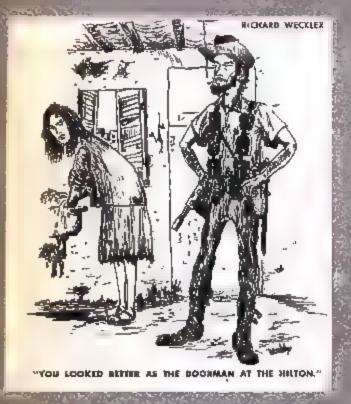
"OF COURSE A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE IT. BUT PERSONALLY I THINK IT STICKS OUT LIKE A SORE THUME."

Li.

VALE RECORD

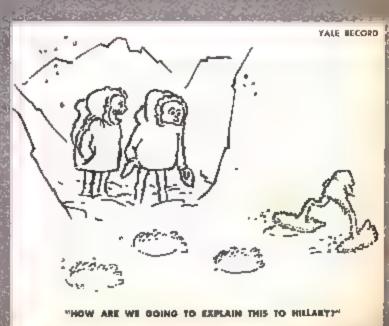


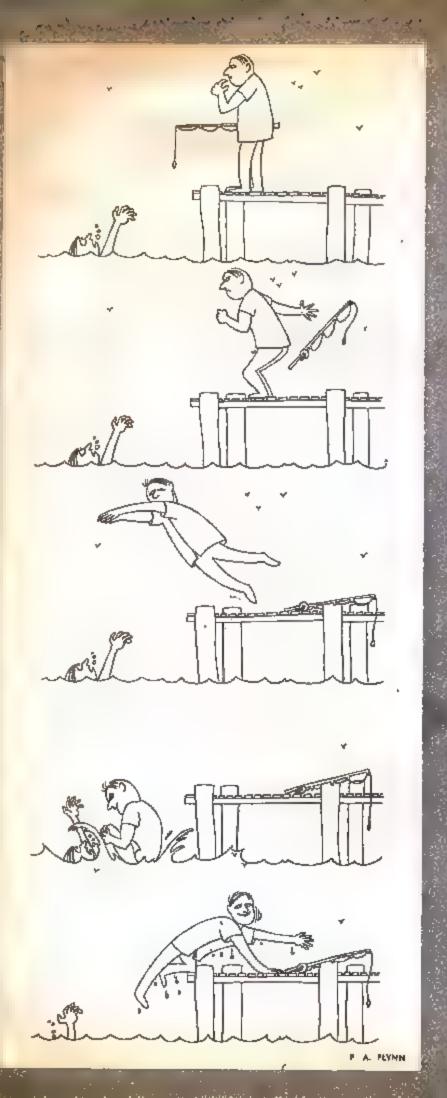








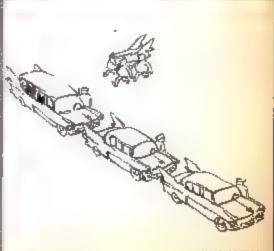








STEVE SURRYHNE



YALE RECORD

The Crystal Egg by H. G. Wells



CHLYPS (CAYIC

Chance directed him into the shop. The dirty little place was ampenetrally black except in one spot, where he perceived an unusual glow of light. Approaching this, he discovered it to be the crystal egg,

here was, until a year ago, a little and very grimyooking shop near Seven Dials, over which, in weatherworn yellow lettering, the name of "C Cave, Naturalist and Dealer in Antiquities," was inscribed. The contents of its window were currously varied. They comprised some elephant tusks and an imperfect set of chessmen, beads and weapons, a box of eyes, two skulls of tigers and one human, several moth-eaten stuffed monkeys (one holding a lamp), an old-fashioned cabinet, a fly blown ostrich egg or so, some fishing-tackle, and an extraordinarily dirty, empty glass fish-tank. There was also, at the moment the story begins, a mass of crystal, worked into the shape of an egg and brilliantly polished. And at that two people, who stood outside the window, were looking, one of them a tall, thin clergyman, the other a black-bearded young man of dusky complexion and unobstrusive costume. The dusky young man spoke with eager gesticulation, and seemed anxious for his companion to purchase the article,

While they were there, Mr. Cave came into his shop, his beard still wagging with the bread and butter of his tea. When he saw these men and the object of their regard, his countenance fell. He glanced guiltily over his shoulder, and softly shut the door. He was a little old man, with pale face and peculiar watery blue eyes; his hair was a dirty grey, and he wore a shabby blue frock-coat, an ancient silk hat, and carpet slippers very much down at heel. He remained watching the two men as they talked. The clergyman went deep into his trouser pocket, examined a handful of money, and showed his teeth in an agreeable smile. Mr. Cave seemed still more depressed when they came into the shop.

The clergyman, without any ceremony, asked the price of the crystal egg. Mr. Cave glanced nervously towards

the door leading into the parlour, and said five pounds. The elergyman protested that the price was high, to his companion as well as to Mr. Cave—it was, indeed, very much more than Mr. Cave had intended to ask, when he had stocked the article—and an attempt at bargaining ensued. Mr. Cave stepped to the shop-door, and held it open. "Five pounds is my price," he said, as though he wished to save himself the trouble of unprofitable discussion. As he did so, the upper portion of a woman's face appeared above the blind in the glass upper panel of the door leading into the parlour, and stared curiously at the two customers. "Five pounds is my price," said Mr. Cave, with a quiver in his voice,

the swarthy young man had so far remained a spectator, watching Cave keenly. Now he spoke "Give him five pounds," he said. The clergyman glanced at him to see if he were in earnest, and, when he looked at Mr. Cave again, he saw that the latter's face was white. "It's a lot of money," said the clergyman, and, diving into his pocket, began counting his resources. He had little more than thirty shillings, and he appealed to his companion, with whom he seemed to be on terms of considerable intimacy This gave Mr. Cave an opportunity of collecting his thoughts, and he began to explain in an agitated manper that the crystal was not, as a matter of fact, entirely free for sale. His two customers were naturally surprised at this, and inquired why he had not thought of that before he began to bargain Mr Cave became confused, but he stuck to his story, that the crystal was not in the market that afternoon, that a probable purchaser of it had already appeared. The two, treating this as an attempt to

taise the price still further, made as if they would leave the shop. But at this point the parlour door opened, and the owner of the dark fringe and the little eyes appeared.

She was a course-featured, corpulent woman, younger and very much larger than Mr. Cave, she walked heavily, and her face was flushed. "That crystal is for sale," she said. "And five pounds is a good enough price for it. I can't think what you're about, Cave, not to take the gentleman's offer!"

Mr Cave, greatly perturbed by the irruption, looked anguly at her over the rims of his spectacles, and, without excessive assurance, asserted his right to manage his business in his own way. An altercation began. The two customers watched the scene with interest and some amusement, occasionally assisting Mrs. Cave with suggestions. Mr. Cave, hard driven, persisted in a confused and impossible story of an enquiry for the crystal that morning, and his agitation became painful. But he stuck to his point with extraordinary persistence. It was the young Oriental who ended this curious controversy. He proposed that they should call again in the course of two days—so as to give the alleged enquirer a fair chance. "And then we must insist," said the clergyman. "Five pounds." Mrs. Cave took it on herself to apologise for her husband, explaining that he was sometimes "a little odd," and as the two customers left, the couple prepared for a free discussion of the incident in all its bearings.

Mrs. Cave talked to her husband with singular directness. The poor little man, quivering with emotion, muddled hunself between his stories, maintaining on the one

hand that he had another customer in view, and on the other asserting that the crystal was honestly worth ten gumeas. "Why did you ask five pounds?" said the wife. "Do let me manage my business my own way!" said Mr Cave

Mr Cave had living with him a step-daughter and a step-son, and at supper that high the transaction was rediscussed. None of them had a high opinion of Mr. Cave's business methods, and this action seemed a culminating folly.

"It's my opinion he's refused that crystal before," said the step-son, a loose-limbed lout of eighteen

. "But Five Pounds!" said the step-daughter, an argumentative young woman of six-and-twenty

Mr Cave's answers were wretched, he could only mumble weak assertions that he knew his own business best. They drove him from his half-eaten supper into the shop, to close it for the night, his ears assame and tears of vexation behind his spectacles "Why had he left the crystal in the window so long? The folly of it!" That was the trouble closest in his mind. For a time he could see no way of evading sale.

After support his step-daughter and step-son smartened themselves up and went out and his wife retired upstairs to reflect upon the business aspects of the crystal, over a little sugar and lemon and so forth in hot water. Mr Cave went into the shop, and stayed there until late, ostensibly to make ornamental rockeries for gold-fish cases but really for a private purpose that will be better explained later



The next day Mrs. Cave found that the crystal had been removed from the window, and was lying behind some second-hand books on angling. She replaced it in a conspicuous position. But she did not argue further about it, as a nervous headache disinclined her from debate. Mr. Cave was always disinclined. The day passed disagreeably. Mr. Cave was, if anything, more absent-minded than usual, and uncommonly irritable withal. In the afternoon, when his wife was taking her customary sleep, he removed the crystal from the window again

The next day Mr. Cave had to deliver a consignment of dog-fish at one of the hospital schools, where they were needed for dissection. In his absence Mrs. Cave's mind reverted to the topic of the crystal, and the methods of expenditure suitable to a windfall of five pounds. She had already devised some very agreeable expedients, among others a dress of green silk for herself and a trip to Richmond, when a jangling of the front door bell summoned her into the shop. The customer was an examination coach who came to complain of the non-delivery of certain frogs asked for the previous day. Mrs. Cave did not approve of this particular branch of Mr. Cave's business, and the gentleman, who had called in a somewhat aggressive mood, retired after a brief exchange of wordsentirely civil so far as he was concerned. Mrs. Cave's eye then naturally turned to the window; for the sight of the crystal was an assurance of the five pounds and of her dreams. What was her surprise to find it gone!

She went to the place behind the locker on the counter,

where she had discovered it the day before. It was not there; and she immediately began an eager search about the shop.

When Mr. Cave returned from his business with the dog-fish, about a quarter to two in the afternoon, he found the shop in some confusion, and his wife, extremely exasperated and on her knees behind the counter, routing among his taxidermic material. Her face came up hot and angry over the counter, as the jangling bell announced his return, and she forthwith accused him of "hiding it."

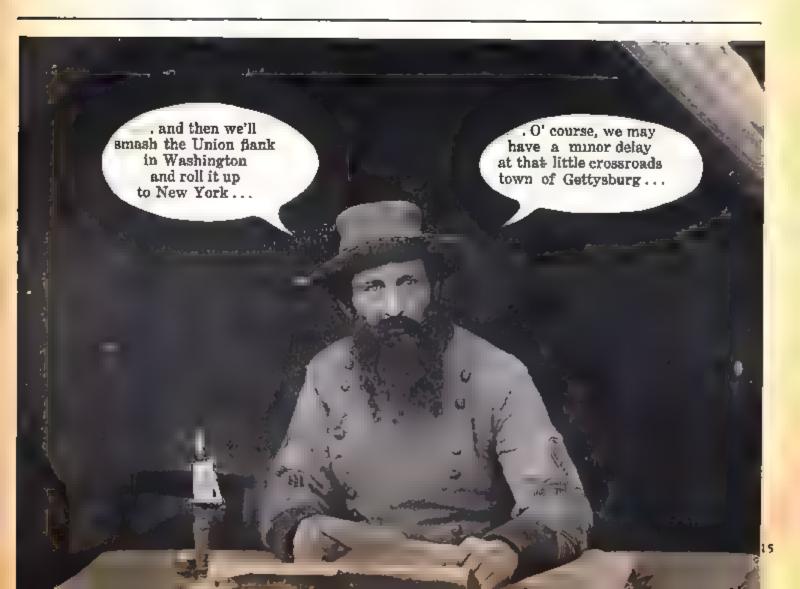
"Hid what?" asked Mr. Cave.

"The crystal!"

At that Mr. Cave, apparently much surprised, rushed to the window. "Isn't it here?" he said "Great Heavans! what has become of it?"

Just then, Mr. Cave's step-son re-entered the shop from the inner room—he had come home a minute or so before Mr. Cave—and he was blaspheming freely. He was apprenticed to a second-hand furniture dealer down the road, but he had his meals at home, and he was naturally annoyed to find no dinner ready.

But, when he heard of the loss of the crystal, he forgot his meal, and his anger was diverted from his mother to his step-father. Their first idea, of course, was that he had hidden it. But Mr. Cave stoutly denied all knowledge of its fate—freely offering his bedabbled affidavit in the matter—and at last was worked up to a point of accusing, first, his wife and then his step-son of having taken it with a view to a private sale. So began an exceedingly



acrimonious and emotional discussion, which ended for Mrs. Cave in a peculiar nervous condition midway between hysterics and amuck, and caused the step-son to be half-an-hour late at the furniture establishment in the afternoon. Mr Cave took refuge from his wife's emotions in the shop.

In the evening the matter was resumed, with less passion and in a judicial spirit, under the presidency of the step-daughter. The supper passed unhappily and culminated in a painful scene. Mr Cave gave way at last to extreme exasperation, and went out banging the front door violently. The rest of the family, having discussed him with the freedom his absence warranted, hunted the house from garret to cellar, hoping to light upon the crystal.

The next day the two customers called again. They were received by Mrs. Cave almost in tears. It transpired that no one could imagine all that she had stood from Cave at various times in her marned pilgrimage. ... She also gave a garbled account of the disappearance. The clergyman and the Oriental laughed silently at one another, and said it was very extraordinary. As Mrs. Cave seemed disposed to give them the complete history of his life they made to leave the shop. Thereupon Mrs. Cave, still clinging to hope, asked for the clergyman's address, so that, if she could get anything out of Cave, she might communicate it. The address was duly given, but apparently was afterwards mislaid. Mrs. Cave can remember nothing about it

In the evening of that day, the Caves seem to have ex-

hausted their emotions, and Mr. Cave, who had been out in the afternoon, supped in a gloomy isolation that contrasted pleasantly with the impassioned controversy of the previous days. For some time matters were very badly strained in the Cave household, but neither crystal nor customer reappeared.

Now, without mineing the matter, we must admit that Mr Cave was a liar. He knew perfectly well where the crystal was. It was in the rooms of Mr. Jacoby Wace, Assistant Demonstrator at St. Catherine's Hospital, Westbourne Street. It stood on the sideboard partially covered by a black velvet cloth, and beside a decanter of American whisky It is from Mr. Wace, indeed, that the particulars upon which this narrative is based were derived. Cave had taken off the thing to the hospital hidden in the dog fish sack, and there had pressed the young investigator to keep it for him Mr. Wace was a little dubious at first. His relationship to Cave was peculiar. He had a taste for singular characters, and he had more than once invited the old man to smoke and drink in his rooms, and to unfold his rather amusing views of life in general and of his wife in particular Mr. Wace had encountered Mrs. Cave, too, on occasions when Mr Cave was not at home to attend to him. He knew the constant interference to which Cave was subjected, and having weighed the story judičially, he decided to give the crystal a refuge Mr. Cave promised to explain the reasons for his remarkable affection for the crystal more fully on a later occasion, but he spoke distinctly of seeing visions therein. He called on



Mr Wace the same evening.

He told a complicated story The crystal he said had come into his possession with other oddments at the forced sale of another curiosity dealer's effects, and not knowing what its value might be, he had ticketed it at ten shillings. It had hung upon his hands at that price for some months, and he was thinking of "reducing the figure," when he made a singular discovery.

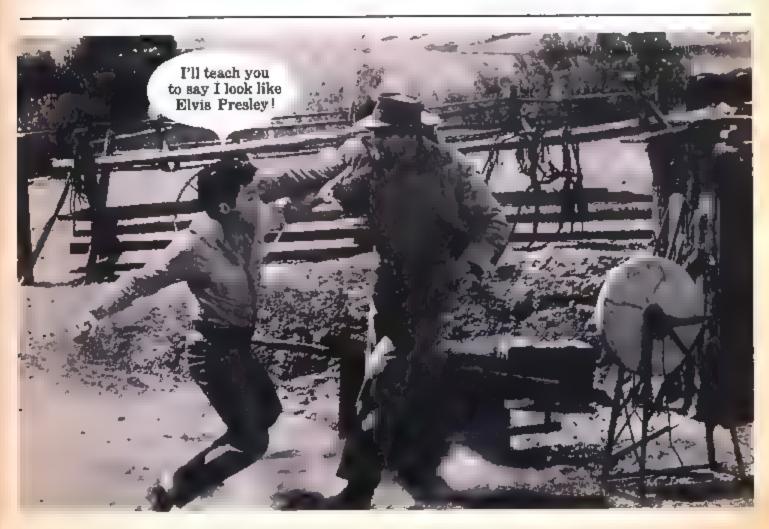
At that time his health was very bad-and it must be borne in mind that, throughout all this experience, his physical condition was one of ebb-and he was in conscierable distress by reason of the negligence, the positive ill-treatment even, he received from his wife and stepchildren. His wife was vain, extravagant, unfeeling, and had a growing taste for private drinking; his step-daughter was mean and overreaching, and his step-son had conceived a violent dislike for him, and lost no chance of showing it. The requirements of his business pressed beavily upon him, and Mr Wace does not think that he was altogether free from occasional intemperance. He had begun life in a comfortable position, he was a man of fair education, and he suffered, for weeks at a stretch, from melancholia and insomnia. Afraid to disturb his family, he would strp quietly from his wife's side, when his thoughts became intolerable, and wander about the house. And about three o'clock one morning, late in August, chance directed him into the shop.

The dirty little place was impenetrably black except in one spot, where he perceived an unusual glow of light.

Approaching this, he discovered it to be the crystal egg, which was standing on the corner of the counter towards the window. A thin ray smote through a crack in the shutters, impinged upon the object, and seemed as it were to fill its entire interior.

It occurred to Mr. Cave that this was not in accordance with the laws of optics as he had known them in his younger days. He could understand the rays being refracted by the crystal and coming to a focus in its interior, but this diffusion jarred with his physical conceptions. He approached the crystal nearly, peering into it and round it, with a transient revival of the scientific curiosity that in his youth had determined his choice of a calling. He was surprised to find the light not steady, but writhing within the substance of the egg, as though that object was a hollow sphere of some luminous vapour. In moving about to get different points of view, he suddenly found that he had come between it and the ray, and that the crystal none the loss remained luminous. Greatly astonished, he lifted it out of the light ray and carried it to the darkest part of the shop. It remained bright for some four or five minutes, when it slowly faded and went out. He placed it in the thin streak of daylight, and its luminousness was almost immediately restored.

So far, at least, Mr. Wace was able to verify the remarkable story of Mr. Cave. He has himself repeatedly held this crystal in a ray of light (which had to be of a less diameter than one millimetre). And in a perfect darkness, such as could be produced by velvet wrapping, the crystal did undoubtedly appear very faintly phosphorescent. It



would seem, however, that the luminousness was of some exceptional sort, and not equally visible to all eyes, for Mr. Harbinger – whose name will be familiar to the scientific reader in connection with the Pasteur Institute –was quite unable to see any light whatever. And Mr. Wace's own capacity for its appreciation was out of comparison inferior to that of Mr. Cave's. Even with Mr. Cave the power varied very considerably, his vision was most vivid during states of extreme weakness and fatigue.

Now from the outset this light in the crystal exercised an irresistible fascination upon Mr. Cave. And it says more for his loneliness of soul than a volume of pathetic writings could do, that he told no human being of his curious observations. He seems to have been living in such an atmosphere of petty spite that to admit the existence of a pleasure would have been to risk the loss of it. He found that as the dawn advanced, and the amount of diffused light increased, the crystal became to all appearance non-luminous. And for some time he was unable to see anything in it, except at night-time, in-dark corners of the shop.

But the use of an old velvet cloth, which he used as a background for a collection of minerals, occurred to him, and by doubling this, and putting it over his head and hands, he was able to get a sight of the luminous movement within the crystal even in the day-time. He was very cautious lest he should be thus discovered by his wife, and he practised this occupation only in the afternoons, while she was asleep upstairs, and then circumspectly in a hollow under the counter. And one day, turning the crystal about in his hands, he saw something, it came and went like a flash, but it gave him the impression that the object had for a moment opened to him the view of a wide and spacious and strange country, and, turning it about, he did, just as the light faded, see the same vision again.

Now, it would be tedious and unnecessary to state all the phases of Mr. Cave's discovery from this point. Suffice that the effect was this: the crystal, being peered into at an angle of about 137 degrees from the direction of the illuminating ray, gave a clear and consistent picture of a wide and peculiar country-side. It was not dream-like at all; it produced a definite impression of reality, and the better the light the more real and solid it seemed. It was a moving picture, that is to say, certain objects moved in it, but slowly in an orderly manner like real things, and, according as the direction of the lighting and vision changed, the picture changed also. It must, indeed, have been like looking through an oval glass at a view, and turning the glass about to get at different aspects.

Mr Cave's statements, Mr. Wace assures me, were extremely circumstantial, and entirely free from any of that emotional quality that taints hallucinatory impressions. But it must be remembered that all the efforts of Mr. Wace to see any similar clarity in the faint opalescence of the crystal were wholly unsuccessful, try as he would. The difference in intensity of the impressions received by the two men was very great, and it is quite conceivable that what was a view to Mr. Cave was a mere blurred nebulosity to Mr. Wace.

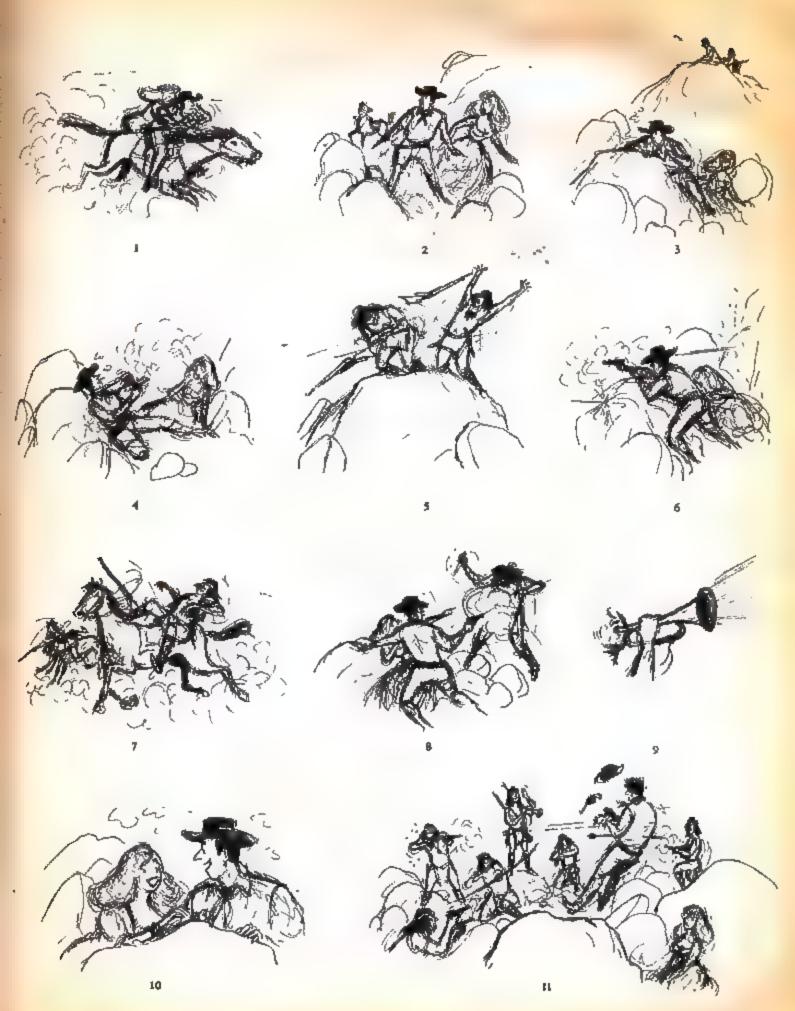
The view, as Mr Cave described it, was invariably of an extensive plain, and he seemed always to be looking

at it from a considerable height, as if from a tower or a mast. To the east and to the west the plain was bounded at a remote distance by vast reddish cliffs, which reminded him of those he had seen in some picture; but what the picture was Mr. Wace was unable to ascertain. These cliffs passed north and south-he could tell the points of the compass by the stars that were visible of a nightreceding in an almost illimitable perspective and fading into the mists of the distance before they met. He was nearer the eastern set of cliffs, on the occasion of his first vision the sun was rising over them, and black against the simlight and pale against their shadow appeared a multitude of soaring forms that Mr. Cave regarded as birds. A vast range of buildings spread below him; he seemed to be looking down upon them, and, as they approached the blurred and refracted edge of the picture. they became indistinct. There were also trees curious in shape, and in colouring, a deep mossy green and an exquisite grey, beside a wide and shining canal. And something great and brilliantly coloured flew across the picture. But the first time Mr. Cave saw these pictures he saw only in flashes, his hands shook, his head moved, the vision came and went, and grew foggy and indistinct. And at first he had the greatest difficulty in finding the picture again once the direction of it was lost.

If is first clear vision, which came about a week after the first, the interval having yielded nothing but tantalising glimpses and some useful experience, showed him the view down the length of the valley. The view was different, but he had a curious persuasion, which his subsequent observation abundantly confirmed, that he was regarding this strange world from exactly the same spot, although he was looking in a different direction. The long façade of the great building, whose roof he had looked down upon before, was now receding in perspective. He recogfused the roof. In the front of the facade was a terrace of massive proportions and extraordinary length, and down the middle of the terrace, at certain intervals, stood huge but very graceful masts, bearing small shiny objects which reflected the setting sun. The import of these small objects did not occur to Mr. Cave until some time after, as he was describing the scene to Mr. Wace. The terrace overhung a thicket of the most luxuriant and graceful vegetation, and beyond this was a wide grassy lawn on which certain broad creatures, in form like beetles but enormously larger, reposed. Beyond this again was a nehly decorated causeway of pinkish stone, and beyond that, and lined with dense red weeds, and passing up the valley exactly parallel with the distant cliffs, was a broad and mirror-like expanse of water. The air seemed full of squadrons of great birds, manoeuvring in stately curves. and across the river was a multitude of splendid buildings, richly coloured and glittering with metallic tracery and facets, among a forest of moss-like and lichenous trees. And suddenly something flapped repeatedly across the vision, like the fluttering of a jewelled fan or the beating of a wing, and a face, or rather the upper part of a face with very large eyes, came as it were close to his own and as if on the other side of the crystal. Mr. Cave was so startled and so impressed by the absolute reality of these eyes, that he drew his head back from the crystal to look

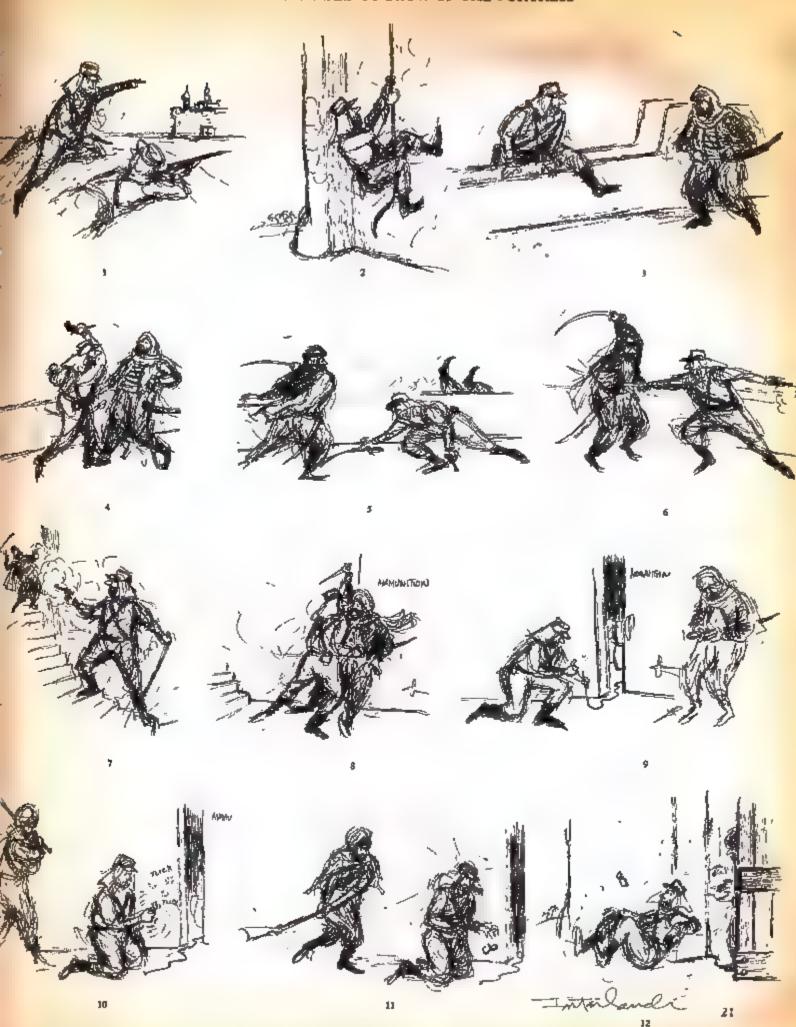
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THE HERO WHO DIDN'T GET RESCUED

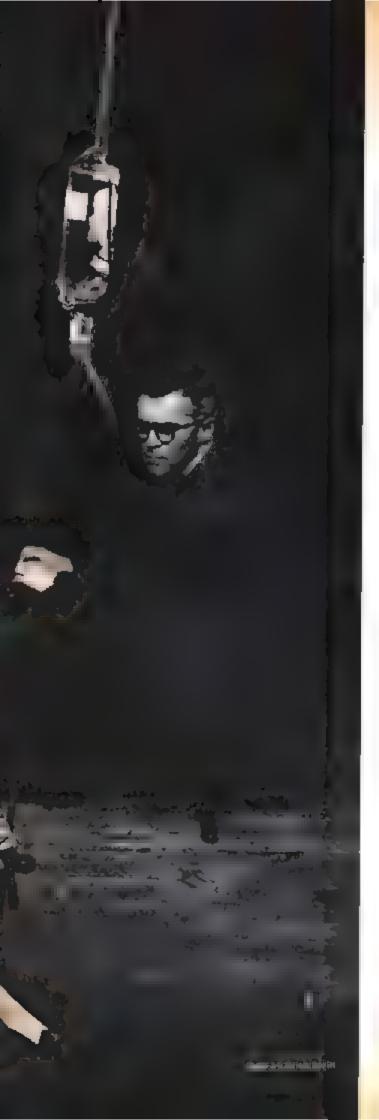


THE PRIVATE EYE WHO WAS WRONG NOT NOW 1 WHO EVER HEAR SOMEONE COMES TO GET THIS EVIDENCE IS COMING WRONG MAH! COME THIS ONE SIGNED FATHER A CONFESSION! DEAR

THE HERO WHO FAILED TO BLOW UP THE FORTRESS







Indecent Exposure: How to write a best-selling autobiography*

I'm going to show you how to write a best-selling autobiography EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED AN IOTA OF HONEST DEGRADATION!

BY GEORGE KIRGO

Autobiographies have been in demand for centuries, ever since Dante put out his Divine Comedy. I feel it only fair to tell you, however, that today they're best sellers for one special reason: THEY SPILL THE BEANS!

They're sagas of sin, sung by the sinners themselves. Madams, murderers, alcoholics, rapists, con-men, drug addicts - these are our new literary lions. Their true-life stories make Studs Lonigan read like The Power of Positive Thinking.

Faulkner? Just a Nobel Prizewinning sissy compared to Polly Adler. And if Erskine Caldwell really wants to know about the seamy side of life, why doesn't be come up north and talk to Lillian Roth?

It's the same with magazines. Scandal mongers like Confidential easily outsell Boy's Life. What boy worthy of the name wants to read about his own life (continued)

From How To Write Ten Different Best Sallers Now in Your Space Time and Become the Pirst Author on Your Block Unless There's an Author Already Living on Your Block in Which Case You'll Become the Second Author on Your Block and That's Okey Too and Other Stories by George Kirgo, which includes thatters on "How's Your Sex, Manuel?: How To Write a Best-Selling Marriage Guide," "The Name Is Chatterley—and I'm No Lady: How to Write a Banned Best-Seller" and other goodies.

when he can find out all about Frank Sinatra's?

Even those sweet movte-fan magazines are different. Gone are articles like "How I Keep Mysolf Dainty" by Broderick Crawford In their place you'll discover uninhibited revelations, such as the one written by Lassie—"I Wanted to Be a Bitch!"

In her trail-blazing I'll Cry Tomorrow, Lillian Roth tells us that at the age of five she had her thighs painted by a perfect stranger Eventually she became a dipsomaniac.

Her autobiography is so graphic a picture of her own debasement that she could've sued herself for defamation of character

Nymphomama was another popular affliction. The ladies who wrote of this malady claimed they'd picked it up from men

My Story, Mary Astor's, was written on the advice of her psychiatrist. And it reads as if she'd used his notes from her sessions on the couch.

Who can blame her? Miss Astor's best-seller probably paid for all her doctor bills. Maybe that was what her analyst had in mind

It's been alleged that many of these confessionals were subsidized by Susan Hayward, so she'd have first crack at playing the parts in the movies.

To avoid type-casting, however, she's planning to branch out. There's a possibility she'll do the film version of Christine Jorgensen's autobiography, in which the title role will be played by both Miss Hayward and Gregory

Another poignant memoir was Baa, Baa, Black Sheep by "Pappy" Boyungton He was the war ace who took to drink because he couldn't adjust to peacetime life. Fortunately he was cured, and not a minute too soon. His friends were about to start another war so he'd perk up.

In his all too brief screen career, the late Errol Flynn numbered among his sensitive portrayals such legendary lovers as Don Juan, Casanova and John Barrymore.

In My Wicked, Wicked Ways—his legendary life story—we find that Flynn took his roles quite seriously. He was a painstaking researcher. Before he assumed the guise of Casanova, for instance, he spared no exertion to acquaint himself intimately with the problems that must have confronted that poor devil, hounded as he was by insatiable women seeking his favors.

In fact Flynn spent so much of his time engaged in research—of one kind or another—that you wonder how he ever found a minute to write about it.

Rocky Graziano, Gypsy Rose Lee, Zsa Zsa Gabor—the trend continues. The time is ripe for your own awful autobiography But you must act now Book buyers are a fickle group and you never know when they'll suddenly decide to give up alcohol, narcotics, promiscuity and other such pastimes—in their reading anyway.

Remember TELL ALL.

WEEP, AND THE WORLD WEEPS WITH YOU HOLD NOTHING BACK, AND NOTHING CAN HOLD YOU BACK.



You hesitate. I think I know why, You're afraid that your life lacks the drama that spiked the lives of a Diana Barrymore or a Rocky Graziano.

Of course it does. Whose life doesn't?

Take me, for example Before I wrote my novel, I too had contemplated doing an autobiography—my own, in fact However, when I let my whole life pass in front of me (while swimming and managing to go down for the thard time), I realized that it could hardly be called lurid.

I've never been a Communist. I've never even been a Republican or a Democrat. I've never been an alcoholic, a drug addict, a homosexual (please, don't tell me my childhood crushes on Richard Dix and André Gide mean anything)

My only sin is that I once was a contestant on a fixed quiz show. I'm sure it was fixed because I lost \$75 of my own money.

I certainly can't claim the wealth of incident that you find, for example, in Mary Astor's book. Why, do you know that at the age of seventeen she had her first affair—with John Barrymore! Nothing like that ever happened to me. I don't even know Fthel.

And that's why I wrote a novel instead of an autobiography. Don't you make the same mistake

After all, not all of us can be former alcoholics or drug addicts. That does not mean you're beyond redemption. EVEN IF YOU'VE NEVER SINNED AT ALL, YOU CAN STILL BE SAVED!

Don't misunderstand I'm not suggesting that you take up a life of sin now. To me, there's nobody more disgust-

ing than a tectotaler who starts boozing it up just to write a best seller

You can try this if you want to. But you leave yourself open to the charge that your alcoholism was insincere.

Also, you run the risk of failure. What if your liver doesn't hold out? Then where's your best seller?

No, synthetic sin never got anybody anywhere. The only sin worth a nickel is sincere sin

Where does that leave you with your spotless past? Relax. I'm going to show you how to write a best-selling autobiography EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED AN IOTA OF HONEST DEGRADATION!

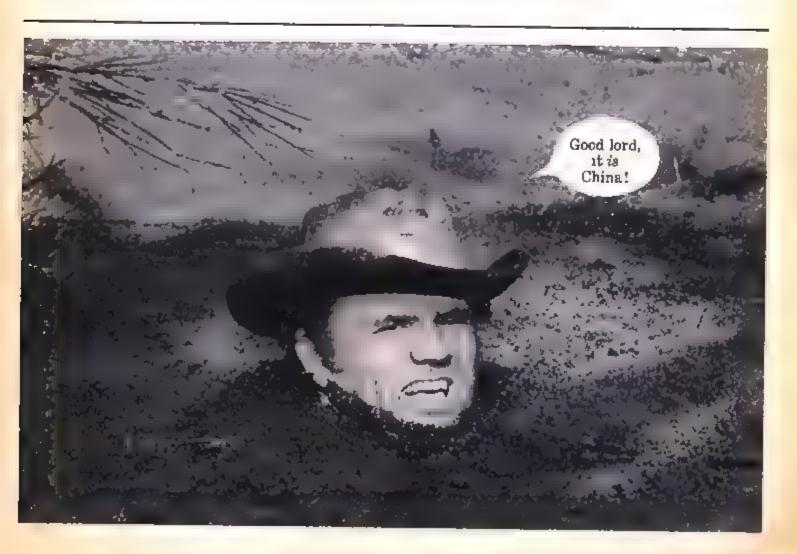
Parental discord, a drunken father, a promiscuous mother, pre-marital sex, drug addiction, alcoholism, marital sex, mental unbalance — yes, all these autobiographical necessities can be vours! EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A PLAIN, ORDINARY, PURE PERSON!

What's more amazing is that you'll be teling the truth! Maybe not the whole truth, yet nothing but the truth.

How? Ever hear of poetic license?

To show you what I mean, I've composed an imaginary autobiography, the story of an everyday, clean-living, boring human being. IT COULD BE YOU!

The autobiography appears in the left-hand column. In the right-hand column you'll find the facts. A single quick reading will illustrate how the simple, prosaic details of your own drab existence can be converted into an exciting and sordid best seller.



(Note: I've made our subject a woman only for purposes of Susan Hayward.)

They Called Me Rotten

Tomorrow I shall be leaving St.

Botolph's.

Little did I realize, when I entered the gates at the foot of Krafft-Ebing Hill, that my stay at St. Botolph's would extend beyond the New Year.

But on that dismal day six weeks ago I was hardly capable of clear thought. To be perfectly honest, I was absolutely miserable. All I can remember of that wretched afternoon is the deep stabbing pain that kept flashing through my breasts, my great breasts.

My life at St. Botolph's has been a revelation. I've discovered so many

things I never knew before.

It hasn't been all sweetness and light. Some days I felt the world was a steaming mass of filth.

Then one glorious day everything changed. An oppressing load was lifted from my weary shoulders.

How did it all begin? How did I come to St. Botolph's? I was born.

My first memory is of peeking out the window and seeing my father careen down the street and topple into the bushes beside our mailbox.

My mother rushed out to help him, pulling him up as he sheepishly gazed at her. "I see you managed to hold onto the bottle!" said Mother. Sure enough, there it was, clutched to his chest. Oh, Daddy!

Miss Framing, my nursery-school teacher, asked me to repair the hooks in the cloak room. If she hadn't I never would have gone home for the hook-repairer. And there in the foyer was Mother—in the arms of another man! They hugged each other, exchanged fond looks, pressed their cheeks together. They never noticed me.

At breakfast I had the feeling something was different, something was missing. "Where's Daddy?" I asked my mother. "Your...daddy's gone," she sobbed softly. "Gone, gone, gone!"

My first date! A thrill passed through my breasts, my great breasts. Jim was a sweet boy, a perfect genteman—so I thought! Then, as we parked in front of my house, he became an utter madman! "You've got to, you must!" he demanded. "No!" I shricked. "I'm not That's Your Name

— Doris Rotten

You've been working there

II was supposed to be a temporary job just through Christmas.

You'd stuffed yourself with Thonksgiving turkey.

And too many scalloped oysters.

You discovered who St. Botolph was.

You worked in the laundry.

They bought an automatic washer-dryer combination.

It was a sleety day. The walks were ley and -- boom!

Despite the inclement weather, your father had gone out for a quart of milk.

It was your uncle Harold, your mother's anly brother, home after eight years in New Jersey.

It was 1941 He'd been drofted that kind of girl." The more I resisted,
the more frantic Jim got. I felt my resistance slipping away. "All right," I
said. "But...please...be...careful."
And I let him.

"Come on, Doris," Harry pleaded.
"You'll get a real charge out of it."
"But I've never done it before," I said.
"Okay," Harry said snarling, "forget it" "Please," I said, "don't be peeved."
"Well, darn!" he said sensitively I held the needle before my curious eyes. "Alinght," I said. "Just for you, Harry"
And then I took the needle and...

I was booked. Men knew it. They knew how to take advantage of me. What was worse, I couldn't say no.

Prank led me into the darkness, his arm tight around my waist, beneath my breasts, my great breasts. We sat and then... I was lost, swept away in a current of passion. Time and space held no meaning. Nothing held no meaning... only: "Drink 'er down, baby! Chug-a-lug!" "But I'm so dizzy." "Here. Take it. On the rocks." "No more, please. I don't feel... very... well." And then it was over. But the next morning I knew I had to have more... and more!

"It's a monkey on my back, too," said Frank. "Why don't we try to lick it together?" And so we were married. For a while it was fine. We had each other and it seemed that was all we'd ever need. I was so happy. I was even able to give up the needle. I hid it in the broom closet and forgot about it.

"You've got to help me, Dons! You must!" It was Harry and he was in bad shape. We were in the kitchen, alone. I was terrified. Frank was upstairs, asleep. But what if he were to awake? Still, I couldn't refuse Harry I found the needle in the broom closet, "Quick, honey!" Harry begged, "Take them off," I said. "It's easier that way" "Okay," he said. "Now. Do it honey, do it!" In a moment it was all over. "Oh, honey," Harry whispered, "you're terrific! You really know how to do it!" "Please, Harry," I said "You must go now " I harried him out the back door just as the kitchen door opened. Frank! Without a word he stepped to the refrigerator and took out the ice tray. Why didn't he say something?

You let him horrow your car

You dained Harry's socks.

You darned everybody's socks.

You were seeing your first Susun Hayward movie.

You've been a Susan Hayward Jan ever since.

He was vicepresident of the local Susan Hayward Jan club

Of course Frank's socks got to be presty ragged.

Getting ready for a late date, he'd discovered holes in his only pair of socks.

Frank loved ice cubes.

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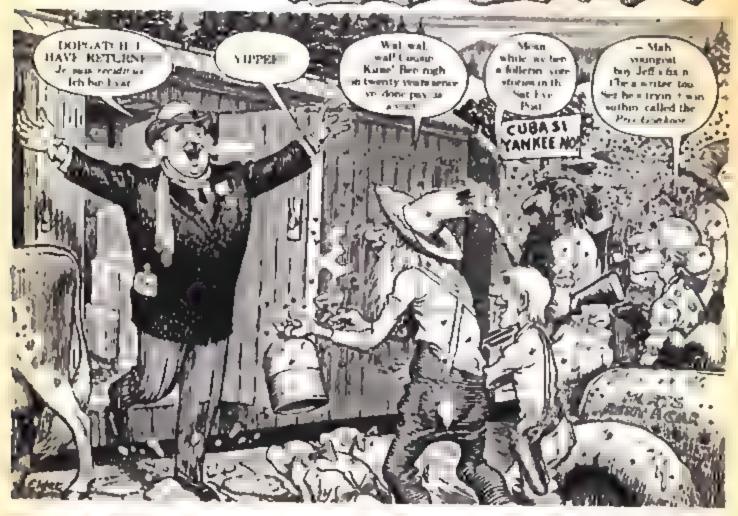
DOPGATCH REVISITED

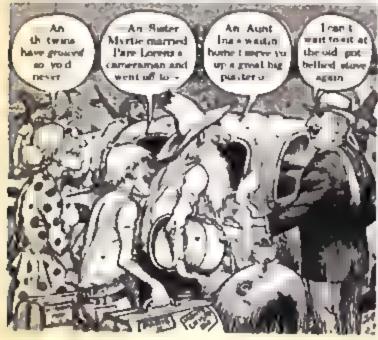
BY Ed Fisher and Will Elder

SOCIETY NOTES KUNE BISSELL, AUTHOR TO VISIT OZARK KIN.

BENEATCH March 5 The Bisher Can hareshouts, are easy by most on a 57 given to the total during the state of the terminal house, the same the state of the terminal transfer and the terminal transfer and the terminal transfer and the terminal to the first and the same of the march at the terminal total the first the same threatened at the force of the A May Shane Bishert where an old take terminal to a rule of the A May Shane Bishert where an old take terminal to a rule of the A May Shane Bishert where the old take terminal to a rule of the A May Shane Bishert where the old take terminal to a rule of the A May Shane Bishert where the old take terminal to a rule of the terminal ter

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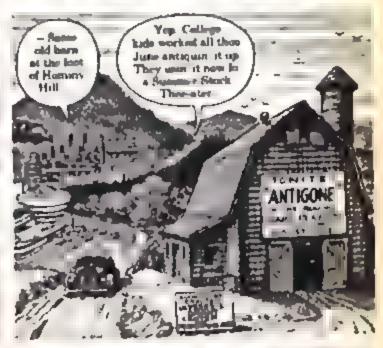






























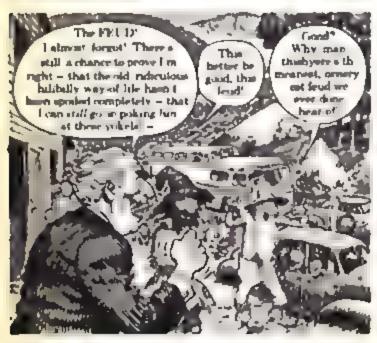




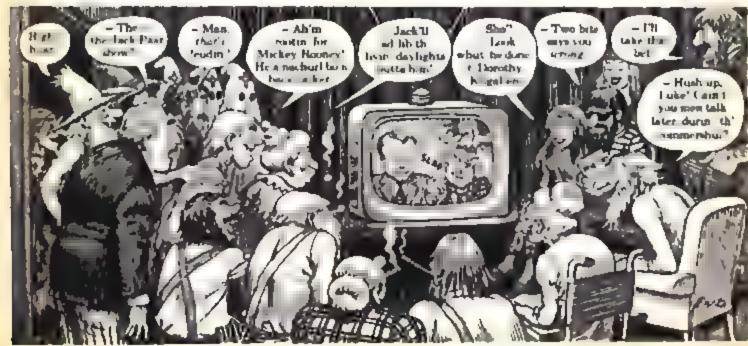












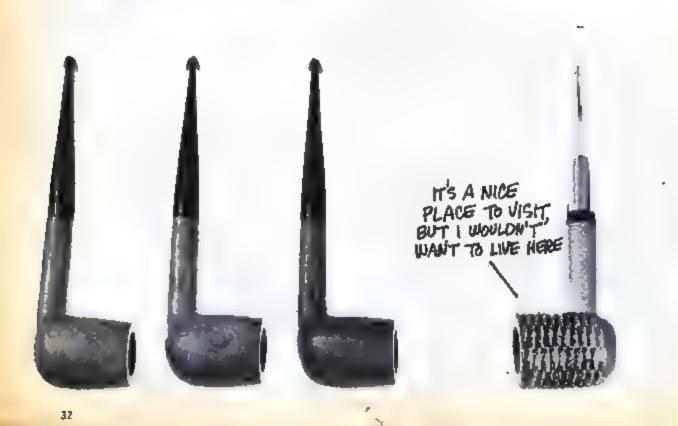
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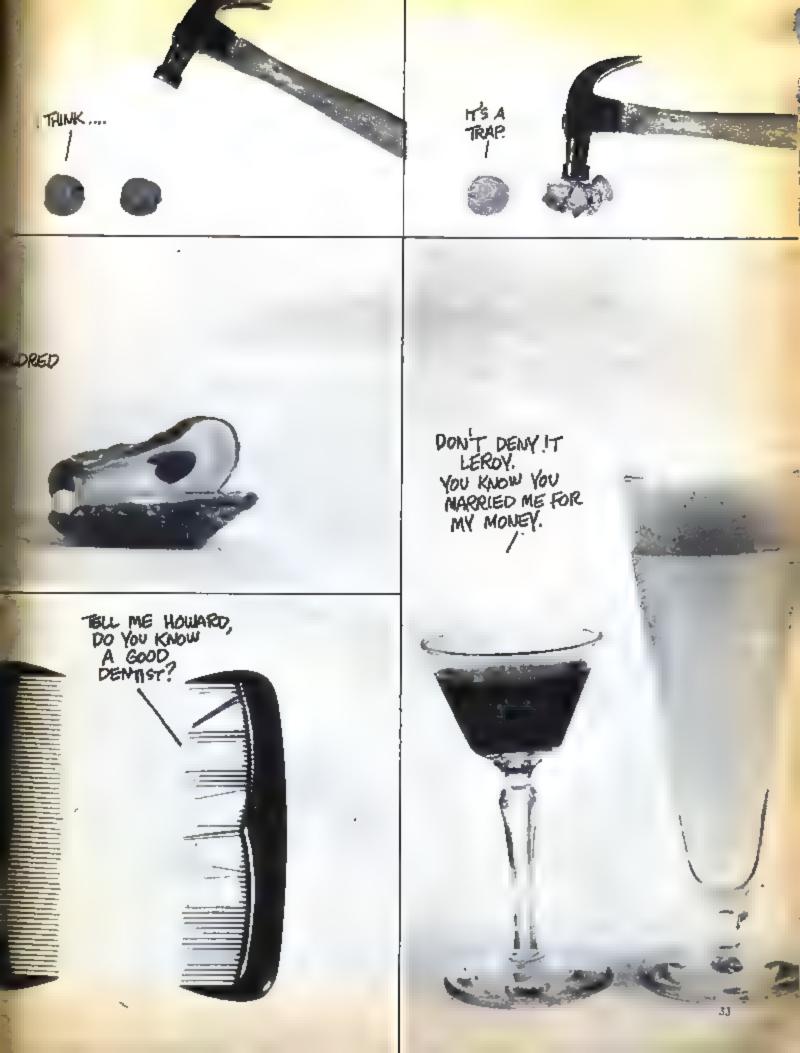
WATCH IT HERBIE.



CONGRATULATIONS IT'S LOVEL







"Want one?" he said, holding the ice tray aloft. "Not ... not now," I managed. With a shrug, he left the kitchen. Oh, dear heaven, had Frank heard Harry and me? Had he been listening at the door when Harry and I -Harry and [! Our conversation! "Quick, honey!" "Take them off. It's easier that way '... "Okay. Now Do it honey, do "Oh, honey, you're terrific You really know how to do it!" I rushed upstairs, but Frank was already asleep.

When I woke the next morning and reached over to clasp Frank to me . . . the hed was half empty. Frank was gene Gone, gone, gone!

Thanksgiving without Frank was the worst agony of all, We'd had so much fun - stalling ourseves with turkey, dressing, scalinged oysters—which never agreed with me, but I ate them to please Frank Now I was alone And I was exhausted I hadn't slept a wink all night. Then I thought if Frank were here, what would be want me to do? I knew at once! I hurried to the neighborhood bar-and-grill and recklessly I downed their Thanksgiving Day Special, one after another! Finally, I was groggy The bartender gave me the check I gasped' I didn't have that kind of money! He sneered. He d heard that story before "Please," I sa.d. "Couldn't I do something, wash dishes, anything?" The bartender's eyes narrowed and one of them winked "Yeah," he said "Maybe you could do something," "What . would you like me to do?" l asked, my heart sinking. And then he sat down beside me, close to me, and told me what he wanted me to do. He spared no detail. Disgusted and horrified, I cringed on my stool. But how could I refuse? "All right," I said. The bartender smiled and then there was a great stabbing pain stashing across my breasts, my great breasts.

The next thing I knew I was at St. Botolph's.

Tomorrow I shall be leaving St. Botelph's. When Frank is discharged from the Army, perhaps the things I've learned hore can help us make a new life together

It won't be easy. After all, we are not wealthy. But I think I know how to get some money—easy money, lots of it. Perhaps it's wrong to degrade my-

Sure, Frank had heard. But. having shared a locker as the gotf club with Harry, he knew that Harry was remiss about clipping the nails of his big toes and as a result his socks always had holes. So Frank figured you were darning them for him.

It was 1951. He had been drafted

You'd been to an all-night Susan Hayward Film Festival.

Turkey with all the fixin's,

The bartender's brother ran the laundry of St. Botalph's and had asked him to find some temporary help.

You'd never had a job before

Those scalloped oysters.

Up to your ears ın soap süds

You want to open your own laundry.

You'll write your outoblography.

self in such a way, but other people have done it. I can, too, I must. THE END

THANK GOD!

There it is. The autobiography of a typical human being-mediocre, commonplace and dull Couldn't it be

What happened to her has happened, in one way or another, to all of us. Only the names have been changed.

You say I've stacked the cards? That very few of you, for example, have worked in mental hospitals? Agreed Mental hospitals are notonously understaffed

But what makes you think St. Botolph's is a mental hospital? Does our imaginary nuthor say it is? For all we know, it's St. Botolph's Orphanage. Or St. Botolph's Inn. Or St. Botolph's Stadium

Krafft-Ebing Hill bothers you. Good. It's supposed to. Yet the world is full of Krafft-Ebings, Krafft-Ebings who never heard of Psychopathia Sexualis. Maybe this hill is named after Big Dave Krafft-Ebing, stellar first baseman for the old New York Highlanders back at the turn of the century. That would account for St. Botolph's being

No, there is nothing outlandish about this girl's life. We've all had fathers who slipped on icy sidewalks and courageously held on to the groceries. We've all had uncles visit us after long absences. And surely we've all had loved ones depart for the service, particularly in these troubled times.

Didn't we all know a boy who couldn't afford his own car? Aren't we acquainted with men and women who neglect their big-toe nails?

And don't turn up your nose at the laundry business. Thousands and thousands of people make their living that way. Risk their hands with harsh detergents to whiten and brighten the linen you've soiled! Besides, she'll never open that laundry. With the money she makes from her autobiography, she won't need to. She'll really clean up!

Believe me, nothing this girl did is one bit more un-

interesting than what you've done

Now it's your turn. I guarantee that, if you faithfully follow the example of her autobiography, you'll have no trouble making your own story just as lurid and repulsive.

One final word of caution

After your best seller has been published and the hairraising details of your life are revealed, you'll probably receive numerous letters and telephone calls of a suggestive nature. Then again, you may want to make new friends. But be careful.

Also, some of your less understanding neighbors may snub you at the supermarket or bowling alley. They may even forbid their children to play with your children.

If this occurs, there's only one thing you can do about it: MOVE

More than likely you'll still be the first author on the block where you try to build a new life.

From How To Write Ten Different Bent Sellers Now in Your Spare Time and Become the First Author on Your Block Unless There's on Author Aiready Living on Your Block in Which Case You'll Become the Second Author on Your Block and That's Okay Too and Other Stories by George Kirgo, Copyright 1960 by Simon and Schutter, Reprinted by permission of the author.









With pen and ink and Arnold Roth in

Berlin



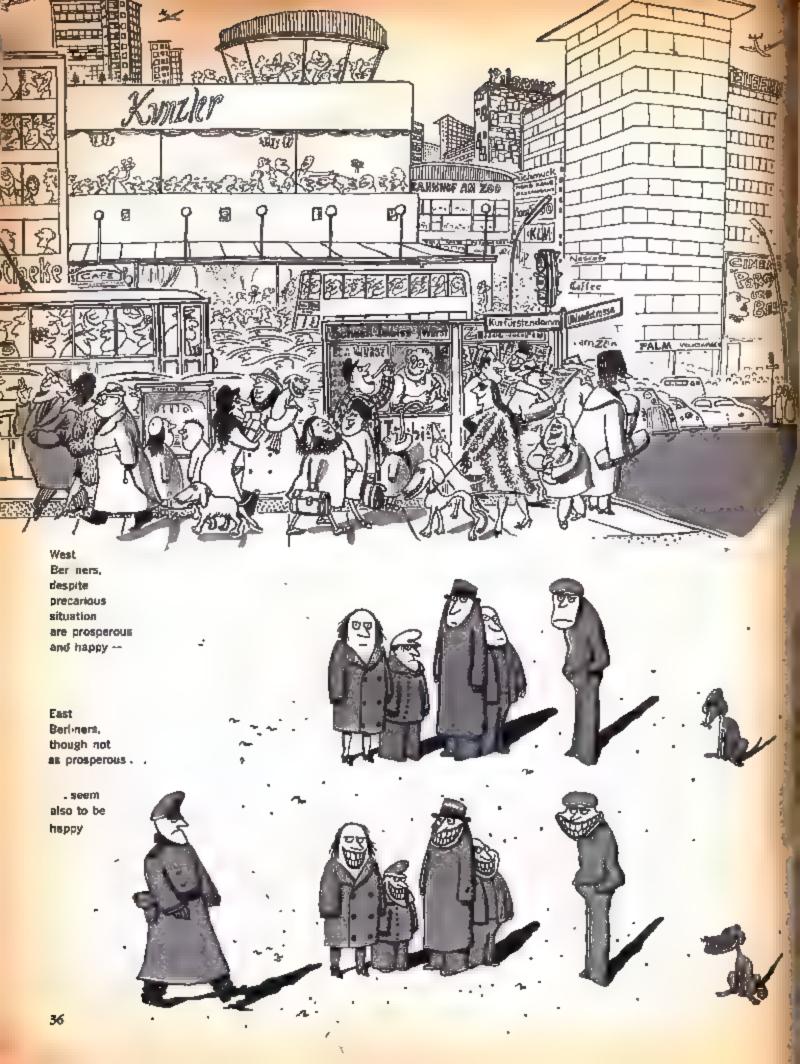
Roth at the border.



The eyes of the world are on Berlin. HELP! sent fine artist-satirist Arnold Roth for an on-the-hot-spot look at the Berlin Problem.

Here is his report.

continued





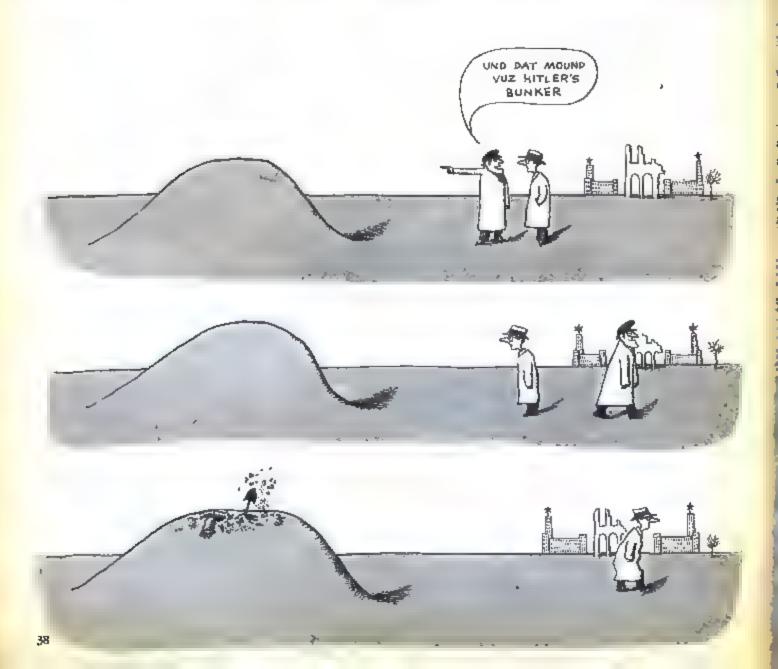
Communism has done much to beautify the East Berlin landscape.

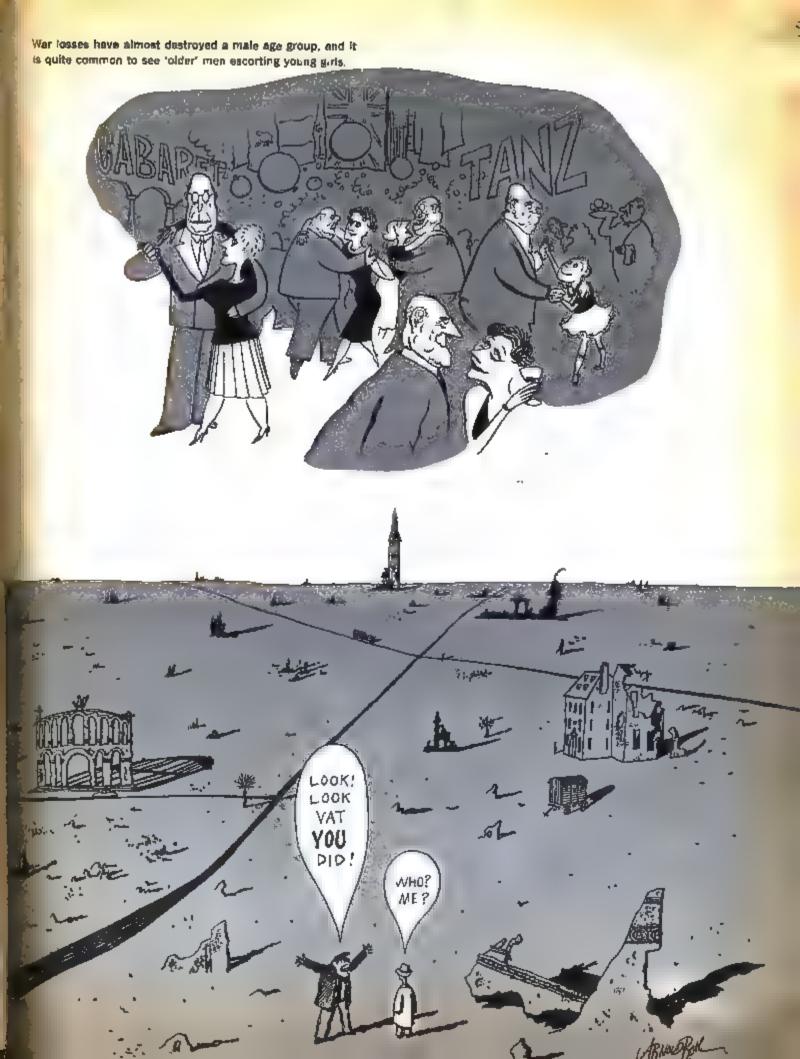






Free enterprise thrives in West Berlin -







AN EGYPTIAN HORNET



The word has an angry, malignant sound that brings the idea of attack vividly into the mind. There is a vicious sting about it somewhere—

Even a foreigner, ignorant of the meaning, must feel it. A homet is wicked; it darts and stabs; it pierces, aiming without provocation for the face and eyes. The name suggests a metallic droning of evil wings, fierce flight, and poisonous assault. Though black and yellow, it sounds scarlet. There is blood in it. A striped tiger of the air in concentrated form! There is no escape—if it attacks.

In Egypt an ordinary bee is the size of an English hornet, but the Egyptian hornet is enormous. It is truly monstrous—an ominous, dying terror. It shares that universal quality of the land of the Sphinx and Pyramids—great size. It is a formidable insect, worse than scorpton or tarantula. The Rev. James Milligan, meeting one for the first time, realized the meaning of another word as

glass. For ten minutes he could enjoy himself and pretend that he was safe. For ten minutes he did so. He behaved carelessly, as though nothing mattered, and as though all the courage in the world were his. He splashed and soaped and sponged, making a lot of reckless noise. He got out and dried himself. Slowly the steam subsided, the air grew clearer, he put on dressing-gown and slippers.

It was time to go out

Unable to devise any further reason for delay, he opened the door softly half an inch-peoped out-and tostantly closed it again with a resounding bang. He had heard a drune of wings. The insect had left its perch and now buzzed upon the floor directly in his path. The air seemed full of stings, he felt stabs all over him, his unprotected portions winced with the expectancy of pain. The beast knew he was coming out, and was waiting for him. In that brief instant he had feet its sting all over him, on his unprojected ankles, on his back, his neck, his cheeks, in his eyes, and on the build clearing that adorned his Anglican head. Through the closed door he-heard the ominous, dull murmur of his striped adversary as it beat its angry wings. Its oiled and wicked sting shot in and out with fury. Its deft legs worked. He saw its tiny waist already writhing with the lust of battle. Ugh! That tiny waist! A moment's steady nerve and he could have severed that cumning body from the directing brain with one swift, well-directed thrust. But his nerve had utterly deserted him

I uman motives, even in the professedly holy, are an involved affair at any time. Just now, in the Rev. James Milligan, they were quite inextricably mixed. He claims this explanation, at any rate, in excuse of his abominable subsequent behaviour. For, exactly at this moment, when he had decided to admit cowardice by ringing for the Arab servant, a step was audible in the corridor outside, and courage came with it into his disceputable heart. It was the step of the man he cordially "disapproved of," using the pulpit version of "hated and despised." He had overstayed his time, and the bath was in demand by Mr. Mullins. Mr. Mullins invariably followed him at seventhirty; it was now a quarter to eight. And Mr. Mullins was a wretched drinking man -"a sot."

In a flush the plan was conceived and put into execubon. The temptation, of course, was of the devil Mr Milliean hid the motive from himself, pretending he hardly recognized it. The plan was what men cail a dirty trick, it was also irresistibly seductive. He opened the door, stepped boldly, nose in the air, right over the hideous insect on the floor, and fairly pranced into the outer pusuage. The brief transit brought a hundred horrible sensations-that the horner would rise and sting his leg, that it would cling to his dressing gown and stab his spine, that he would step upon it and die, like Achilles, of a heel exposed. But with these, and conquering them, was one other stronger emotion that robbed the lesser terrors of their potency-that Mr. Mulins would run precisely the same risks five seconds later, unprepared. He heard the gloating inject buzz and scratch the oilcloth. But it was behind him. He was safe!

"Good morning to you, Mr. Mullins," he observed with a gracious smile "I trust I have not kept you waiting." "Mornin'!" grunted Mullins sourly in reply, as he passed him with a distinctly hostile and contemptious air For Mullins, though depraved, perhaps, was an honest man, abhorring parsons and making no secret of his opinions—whence the bitter feeling.

All men, except those very big ones who are supermen, have something astonishingly despicable in them. The despicable thing in Milligan came uppermost now. He fairly chuckled. He met the stub with a calm, forgiving smile, and continued his shambling gait with what dignity he could towards his bedroom opposite. Then he turned his head to see. His enemy would meet an infurated horner—an Egyptian horner!—and might not notice it He might step on it He might not. But he was bound to disturb it, and rouse it to attack. The chances were enormously on the clerical side. And its sting meant death.

"May God forgive me" ran subconsciously through his mind. And side by side with the repentant prayer ran also a recognition of the tempter's eternal skill. "I hope the devil it will sting him?"

The moment of revulsion was overwhelming. It filled the churchly heart with anguish and bitter disappointment. For a space he hated the whole race of men.

For the instant Mr. Mullims realized that the insect was not a flery illusion of his disordered nerves, he went forward without the smallest hesitation. With his towel he knocked down the flying terror. Then he stooped. He gathered up the venomous thing his well aimed blow had stricken so easily to the floor. He advanced with it, held at arm's length, to the window. He tossed it out carelessly The Egyptian homet flew away uninjured, and Mr. Mullins - the Mr. Mullins who drank, gave nothing to the church, attended no services, hated parsons, and prochanned the fact with enthusiasm-this same detestable Mr Mullins went to his uncarned bath without a scratch. But first he saw his enemy standing in the doorway across the passage, watching him-and understood. That was the awful part of it. Mulins would make a story of it, and the story would go the round of the hotel

The Rev James Milligan, however, proved that his reputation for self-control was not undeserved. He conducted morning service half an hour later with an expression of peace upon his handsome face. He conquered all outward sign of inward spiritual vexation; the wicked, he consoled himself, ever flourish like green buy trees. It was notorious that the righteous never have any luck at all! That was bad enough. But what was worse—and the Rev James Milligan remembered for very long—was the superior ease with which Mullins had relegated both himself and hornet to the same level of comparative insignificance. Mullins ignored them both—which proved that he felt himself superior. Infinitely worse than the sting of any hornet in the world, he really was superior.

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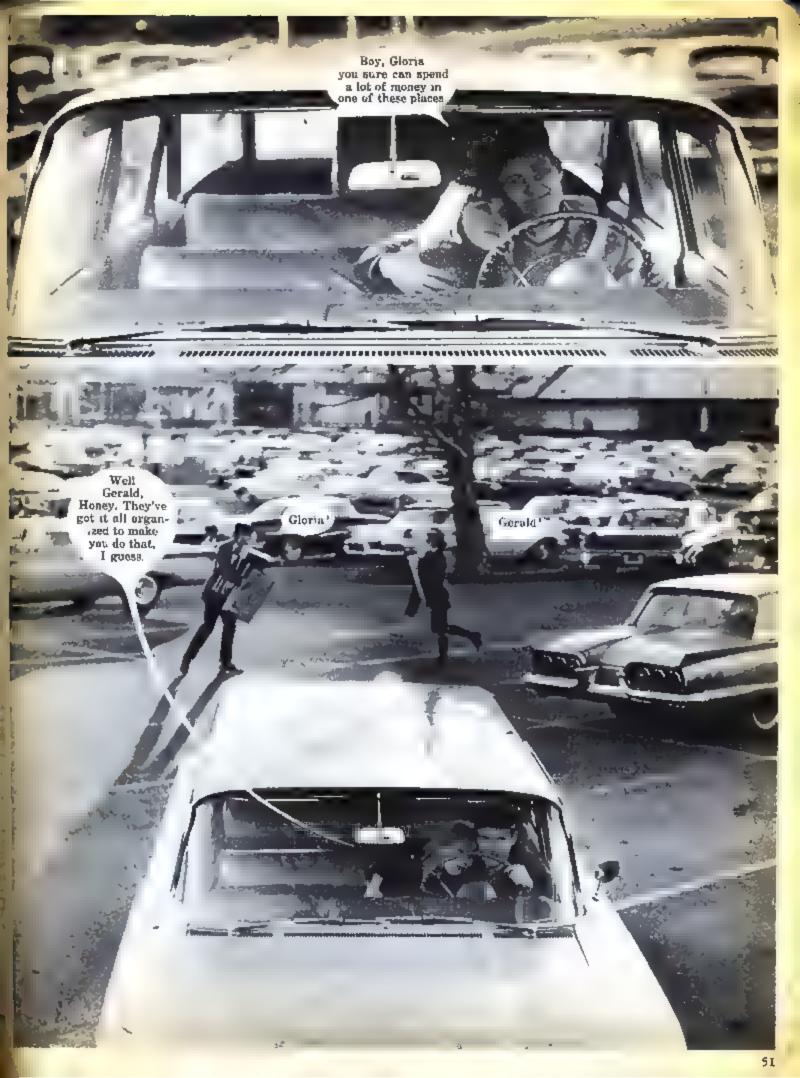












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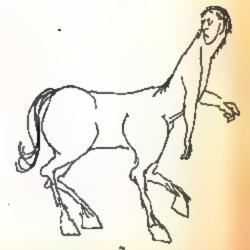


















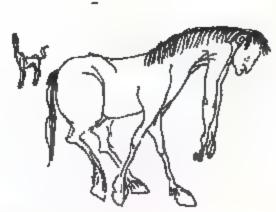


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11





Slargen

13

The Crystal Ess continued from page 18 behind it. He had become so absorbed in watching that he was quite surprised to find himself in the cool darkness of his little shop, with its familiar odour of methyl, mustiness, and decay. And, as he blinked about him, the glowing crystal faded, and went out.

Such were the first general impressions of Mr. Cave. The story is curiously direct and circumstantial. From the outset, when the valley first flashed momentarily on his senses, his imagination was strangely affected, and, as he began to appreciate the details of the scene he saw, his wonder rose to the point of a passion. He went about his business listless and distraught, thinking only of the time when he should be able to return to his watching. And then a few weeks after his first sight of the valley came the two customers, the stress and excitement of their offer, and the narrow escape of the crystal from sale, as I have already told.

Now while the thing was Mr Cave's secret, it remained a mere wonder, a thing to creep to covertly and peep at, as a child might peep upon a forbidden garden. But Mr. Wace has, for a young scientific investigator, a particularly hand and consecutive habit of mind. Directly the crystal and its story came to him, and he had satisfied himself, by seeing the phosphorescence with his own eyes, that there really was a certain evidence for Mr. Cave's statements, he proceeded to develop the matter systematically. Mr. Cave was only too eager to come and feast his eyes on this wonderland he saw, and he came every might from

half-past eight until half-past ten, and sometimes, in Mr. Wace's absence, during the day. On Sunday afternoons, also, he came. From the outset Mr. Wace made copious notes, and it was due to his scientific method that the relation between the direction from which the initiating ray entered the crystal and the orientation of the picture was proved. And, by covering the crystal in a box perforated only with a small aperture to admit the exciting ray, and by substituting black holland for his buff blinds, he greatly improved the conditions of the observations, so that in a little while they were able to survey the valley in any direction they desired.

So having cleared the way, we may give a brief account of this visionary world within the crystal. The things were in all cases seen by Mr. Cave, and the method of working was invariably for him to watch the crystal and report what he saw, while Mr. Wace (who as a science student had learnt the trick of writing in the dark) wrote a brief note of his report. When the crystal faded, it was put into its box in the proper position and the electric light turned on, Mr. Wace asked questions, and suggested observations to clear up difficult points. Nothing, indeed, could have been less visionary and more matter-of-fact.

The attention of Mr Cave had been speedily directed to the bird-like creatures he had seen so abundantly present in each of his earlier visions. His first impression was soon corrected, and he considered for a time that they might represent a diurnal species of bat. Then he thought, grotesquely enough, that they might be cherubs. Their



heads were round, and currously human, and it was the eyes of one of them that had so startled him on his second observation. They had broad, silvery wings, not feathered, but glistening almost as bruliantly as new-killed fish and with the same subtle play of colour, and these wings were not built on the plan of bird-wing, or bat, Mr. Wace learned, but supported by curved ribs radiating from the body (A sort of butterfly wing with curved ribs seems best to express their appearance.) The body was small, but fitted with two bunches of prehensile organs, like long tentacles, immediately under the mouth. Incredible as it appeared to Mr. Wace, the persuasion at last became tresistible, that it was these creatures which owned the great quast-human buildings and the magnificent garden that made the broad valley so splendid. And Mr Cave perceived that the buildings, with other peculiarities, had no doors, but that the great circular windows, which opened freely, gave the creatures egress, and entrance. They would alight upon their tentacles, fold their wings to a smallness almost rod-like, and hop into the interior But among them was a multitude of smaller winged creatures, like great dragon-flies and moths and flying beetles, and across the greensward brilliantly-coloured gigantic ground-beetles crawled lazily to and fro Moreover, on the causeways and terraces, large-headed creatures similar to the greater winged flies, but wingless, were visible, hopping busily upon their hand-like tangle of tentacles.

Allusion has already been made to the glittering objects upon masts that stood upon the terrace of the nearer building. It dawned upon Mr Cave, after regarding one

of these masts very fixedly on one particularly vivid day, that the glittering object there was a crystal exactly like that into which he peered. And a still more careful scrutiny convinced him that each one in a vista of nearly twenty carried a similar object.

Occasionally one of the large flying creatures would flutter up to one, and, folding its wings and coiling a number of its tentacles about the mast, would regard the crystal fixedly for a space—sometimes for as long as fifteen minutes. And a series of observations, made at the suggestion of Mr. Wace, convinced both watchers that, so far as this visionary world was concerned, the crystal into which they peered actually stood at the summit of the end-most mast on the terrace, and that on one occasion at least one of these inhabitants of this other world had looked into Mr. Cave's face while he was making these observations.

So much for the essential facts of this very singular story Unless we dismiss it all as the ingenious fabrication of Mr. Wace, we have to believe one of two things, either that Mr. Cave's crystal was in two worlds at once, and that, while it was carried about in one, it remained stationary in the other, which seems altogether absurd, or else that it had some peculiar relation of sympathy with another and exactly similar crystal in this other world, so that what was seen in the interior of the one in this world was, under suitable conditions, visible to an observer in the corresponding crystal in the other world; and vice versa. At present, indeed, we do not know of any way



in which two crystals could so come en rapport, but nowadays we know enough to understand that the thing is not altogether impossible. This view of the crystals as en rapport was the supposition that occurred to Mr. Wace. and to me at least it seems extremely plausible,

And where was this other world? On this, also, the alert intelligence of Mr. Wace speeduly threw light. After sunset, the sky darkened rapidly—there was a very brief twight interval indeed and the stars shone out. They were recognisably the same as those we see, arranged in the same constellations. Mr Cave recognised the Bear, the Pleiades, Aldebaran, and Sirius: so that the other world must be somewhere in the solar system, and, at the utmost, only a few hundreds of millions of miles from our own. Following up this clue, Mr. Wace learned that the midnight sky was a darker blue even than our midwinter sky, and that the sun seemed a little smaller. And there were two small moons! "like our moon but smaller, and quite differently marked" one of which moved so rapidly that its motion was elearly visible as one regarded it. These moons were never high in the sky, but vanished as they rose that is, every time they revolved they were colipsed because they were so near their primary planet. And all this answers quite completely, although Mr. Cave did not know it, to what must be the condition of things on Mars.

Indeed, it seems an exceedingly plausible conclusion that peering into this crystal Mr. Cave did actually see the planet Mars and its inhabitants. And, if that be the case, then the evening star that shone so brilliantly in the

sky of that distant vision, was neither more not less than our own familiar earth

For a time the Martians-if they were Martians-do not seem to have known of Mr. Cave's inspection. Once or twice one would come to peer, and go away very shortly to some other must, as though the vision was unsatisfactory. During this time Mr. Cave was able to watch the proceedings of these winged people without being disturbed by their attentions, and, although his report is accessantly vague and fragmentary, it is nevertheless very suggestive. Imagine the impression of humanity a Martian observer would get who, after a difficult process of preparation and with considerable fatigue to the eyes, was able to peer at London from the steeple of St. Martin's Church for stretches, at longest, of four minutes at a time. Mr Cave was unable to ascertain if the winged Martians were the same as the Martians who hopped about the causeways and terraces, and if the latter could put on wings at will. He several times saw certain clumsy bipeds, dimly suggestive of apes, white and partially translucent, feeding among certain of the lichenous trees, and once some of these fled before one of the hopping, round headed Martians. The latter caught one in its tentacles, and then the picture faded suddenly and left Mr. Cave most tantalisingly in the dark. On another occasion a vast thing, that Mr. Cave thought at first was some gigantic insect, appeared advancing along the causeway beside the canal with extraordinary rapidity. As this drew nearer Mr. Cave

continued on page 58





The Crystal Ess continued from page 55 perceived that it was a mechanism of shiring metals and of extraordinary complexity. And then, when he looked again, it had passed out of sight

After a lime Mr. Wase aspired to attract the attention of the Martians, and the next time that the strange eyes of one of hem appeared close to the crystal Mr. Cave eried out and spring away, and they immediately turned on the light and began to gesticulate in a manner suggestive of signalling. But when at an Mr. Cave examined the crystal again the Martian had departed.

Thus far these observations had progressed in early November and then Mr Cave, feeling that the suspicions of his family about the crystal were allayed, began to take it to and fro with him in order that, as occasion arose in the daytime or night, he might comfort himself with what was fast becoming the most real thing in his existance.

In December Mr. Wace's work in connection with a forthcoming examination became heavy, the sittings were reluctantly suspended for a week, and for ten or eleven days—he is not quite sure which—he saw nothing of Cave. He then grew anxious to resume these investigations, and, the stress of his seasonal labours being abated, he went down to Seven Dials. At the corner he noticed a shutter before a bird fancier's window, and then another at a cobbler's, Mr. Cave's shop was closed.

He rapped and the door was opened by the step-son in black. He at once called Mrs. Cave, who was, Mr. Wace could not but observe. In cheap but ample widow's weeds of the most imposing pattern. Without any great surprise Mr Wace learnt that Cave was dead and already buried. She was in tears, and her voice was a little thick. She had just returned from Highgate, Her mind seemed occupied with her own prospects and the honourable details of the obsequies, but Mr. Wace was at last able to learn the particulars of Cave's death. He had been found dead in his shop in the early morning, the day after his last visit to Mr. Wace, and the crystal had been clasped in his stone-cold hands. His face was smiling said Mrs. Cave, and the velvet cloth from the minerals lay on the floor at his feet. He must have been dead five or six hours when he was found

This came as a great shock to Wace, and he began to reproach himself bitterly for having neglected the plain symptoms of the old man's ill-health. But his chief thought was of the crystal. He approached that topic in a gingerly manner, because he knew Mrs. Cave's pecuhanties. He was dumbfounded to learn that it was sold.

Mrs Cave's first impulse, directly Cave's body had been taken upstairs, had been to write to the mad clergyman who had offered five pounds for the crystal, informing him of its recovery; but after a violent hunt in which her daughter joined her, they were convinced of the loss of his address. As they were without the means required to mourn and bury Cave in the elaborate style the dignity of an old Seven Dials inhabitant demands, they had appealed to a friendly fellow-tradesman in Great Portland Street. He had very kindly taken over a portion of the stock at a valuation. The valuation was his own and the crystal egg was included in one of the lots. Mr. Wace, after a few suitable consolatory observations, a little off-handedly proferred perhaps, hurried at once to Great

Portland Street. But there he learned that the crystal egg had already been sold to a tall, dark man in grey. And there the material facts in this curious, and to me at least very suggestive story come abruptly to an end. The Great Portland Street dealer did not know who the tall dark man in grey was, nor had he observed him with sufficient attention to describe him minutely. He did not even know which way this person had gone after leaving the shop. For a time Mr. Wace remained in the shop, trying the dealer's patience with hopeless questions, venting his own axasperation. And at last, realising abruptly that the whole thing had passed out of his hands, had vanished like a vision of the night, he returned to his own rooms, a little astorished to find the notes he had made still tangible and visible upon his untidy table,

His annoyance and disappointment were naturally very great. He made a second call (equally meffectual) upon the Great Portland Street dealer, and he resorted to advertisements in such periodicals as were likely to come into the hands of a brie-a-brac collector. He also wrote letters to The Daily Chronicle and Nature, but both those periodicals, suspecting a hoax, asked him to reconsider his action before they printed, and he was advised that such strange story, unfortunately so bare of supporting evidence, might imperil his reputation as an investigator Moreover, the calls of his proper work were urgent. So that after a month or so, save for an occasional reminder to certain dealers, he had refuciantly to abandon the quest for the crystal egg, and from that day to this it remains undiscovered. Occasionally however, he tells me, and I can quite believe him, he has bursts of zeal in which he abandons his more urgent occupation and resumes the search.

Whether or not it will remain lost for ever, with the material and origin of it, are things equally speculative at the present time. If the present purchaser is a collector, one would have expected the enquiries of Mr. Wace to have reached him through the dealers. He has been able to discover Mr. Cave's clergyman and "Oriental" -- no other than the Rev. James Parker and the young Prince of Bosso-Kuni in Java. I am obliged to them for certain particulars. The object of the Prince was simply curiosity -and extravagance. He was so eager to buy, because Cave was so addly reluctant to sell. It is just as possible that the buyer in the second instance was simply a casual purchaser and not a collector at all, and the crystal eas. for all I know, may at the present moment be within a mile of me, decorating a drawing room or serving as a paper-weight-its remarkable functions all unknown. Indeed, it is partly with the idea of such a possibility that I have thrown this narrative into a form that will give it a chance of being read by the ordinary consumer of fiction

My own ideas in the matter are practically identical with those of Mr. Wace. I believe the crystal on the mast in Mars and the crystal egg of Mr. Cave's to be in some physical, but at present quite inexplicable, way en rapport, and we both believe further that the terrestrial crystal must have been-possibly at some remote date-sent hither from that planet, in order to give the Martians a near view of our affairs. Possibly the fellows to the crystals in the other masts are also on our globe. No theory of hallucination suffices for the facts.



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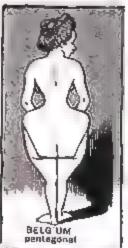


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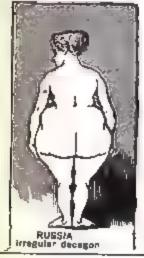




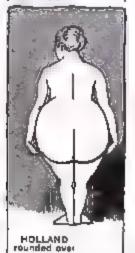


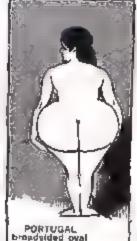














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